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OREGON SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER PRESS RELEASE

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Oregon Senate's Passage of Semiconductor Bill Points to the Need for Additional Legislation to Follow

SALEM, Ore. – Today, the Oregon Senate passed <u>Senate Bill 4B</u>, a bipartisan bill that serves as a first step toward reviving and growing Oregon's semiconductor and advanced manufacturing industry through the federal CHIPS Act.

"Though we have much more work to do, this is a critical first step in boosting Oregon's chip industry which will be an economic driver providing family-wage jobs to Oregonians across the state," said Senator Bill Hansell (R-Athena), member of the Joint Semiconductor Committee.

"Redmond and Central Oregon are well-situated for this kind of significant investment," added Republican Leader Tim Knopp (R-Bend), co-chief sponsor of the bill.

Oregon leads the nation in cutting-edge chip manufacturing and is third in the world only behind South Korea and Taiwan. However, the global share of semiconductors manufactured in the United States has seen major decline in recent decades from 37% to just 12% today.

"We know the dangers of relying on other countries alone for the development and production of chips. This is a matter of national security. This Session, it is important that we continue working on research and development tax credits and enterprise zones to not only solidify but expand Oregon's lead as a top chip producer worldwide," **concluded Knopp.**

SB 4B now heads to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration.